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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/862,797	05/22/2001	Thomas L. Gindin	POU920010018US1	1174

7590

12/21/2004

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EXAMINER

SON, LINH L D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Applicati n N .

09/862,797

Applicant(s)

GINDIN ET AL.

Examiner

Linh Son

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears n the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 05/01, 05/22/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Benantar, US Publication No. 20020144108A1, hereinafter '108.
3. As per claims 1, 8, and 15, "a method for creating a proof of possession confirmation for inclusion by a certification authority into a digital certificate, the digital certificate for use by an end user, the method comprising: receiving, from the certification authority in response to a certificate request by the end user, a plurality of data fields corresponding to a target host system, the identity of the end user, and a proof of identity possession by the end user" is taught in '108 (Para 0060, 0061, 0075, and 0078, and 0044 (Public Key is the proof of identity possession)); "analyzing the content of said plurality of data fields; verifying the accuracy of said plurality of data fields; and if said plurality of data fields is verified as accurate, sending a signed object to the certification authority, said

signed object comprising the proof of possession confirmation" is taught in '108 (Para 0083-0086).

4. As per claims 2, 9, and 16, "the method of claims 1, 8, and 15, wherein said plurality of data fields further comprises: a host name; a subject identification; a subject public key information; and a sealed proof of possession" is taught in '108 (Para 0075, and 0078).
5. As per claims 3, 10, and 17, "the method of claims 2, 9, and 16, wherein analyzing the content of said plurality of data fields further comprises: decrypting a proof of possession structure from said sealed proof of possession; extracting a password from said sealed proof of possession structure; extracting a key identifier from said proof of possession structure; and calculating a correct key identifier from said subject public key information" is taught in '108 (Para 0075, and 0078-0080).
6. As per claims 4, 11, and 18, "the method of claims 3, 10, and 18, wherein the accuracy of said plurality of data fields is verified if: said host name is matched with an identity of said target host system; said extracted password is validated as a valid password for the end user; and said extracted key identifier is matched with said correct key identifier calculated from said subject public key

information" is taught in '108 (Para 0077-80).

7. As per claims 7, 14, and 21, "the method of claims 1 and 8, wherein: said plurality of data fields includes a password; and said signed object does not include said password" is taught in '108 (Para 0075, and Fig. 5, 516).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim 5-6, 12-13, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '108.
10. As per claims 5-6, 12-13, and 19-20, "the method of claims 3 and 10, wherein said extracted password and said extracted key identifier are initially symmetrically encrypted" is taught in '108 (Para 0089). It is well known in the art that the X.509 certificate utilizes symmetrical and asymmetrical encryption utilizing private-public key.

**Conclusion**

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Linh Son whose telephone number is (571)-271-3856.
12. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Kim Y. Vu can be reached at (571)-272-3859. The fax numbers for this group are (703)-872-9306 (official fax). Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (571)-272-2100.
13. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PMR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pzr-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 09/862,797

Page 6

Art Unit: 2135

**Linh LD Son**

**Patent Examiner**

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